



# COVID-19 DAILY DIGEST

MEDICAL STAFF

**Wednesday, April 8, 2020**

Physician updates will be sent out Monday to Friday. For the latest news and resources on COVID-19, visit the [Coronavirus page on OurNH](#) or on the [physician website](#).

Printable PDFs of these updates are on the physician website.

## Provincial case counts and statements

- **As of Monday, April 7, 2020**, there were **23** confirmed COVID-19 cases in NH.
- **Province of BC statistics:**
  - Confirmed cases: **1291** (**25** new cases)
  - Deaths: **43** (**4** new)
  - In hospital: **138** (**66** in ICU)
  - Recovered: **805**
- [Joint statement on Province of B.C.'s COVID-19 response](#) – April 7, 2020.

## Pharmacare's limited coverage criteria for direct-acting anticoagulants (DOACs) are changing for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic

- Pharmacare has announced that patients newly starting anticoagulation treatments are no longer required to try warfarin.
- Warfarin is the long-established anticoagulation treatment for the prevention of strokes in patients with atrial fibrillation, and the treatment of deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism. However, its use often requires frequent lab testing when the therapy is started, interfering with social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Direct-acting oral anticoagulants are as effective as warfarin in treating the aforementioned indications and do not require lab testing as frequently.
- For further details, see the [announcement](#) from BC Pharmacare.

## New COVID-19 Order set available to help with admission decisions in the Emergency Department

- The Therapeutics Committee has developed a new [COVID-19 Lab Investigation Order Set](#) for physicians to use in the Emergency Department for confirmed or suspected COVID-19 cases.

- Order set can be found on the Physician Website or on OurNH in the Order Set section: [10-800-5002 COVID-19 ER Lab Investigations](https://www.ournh.ca/10-800-5002-COVID-19-ER-Lab-Investigations)

## Webinar tomorrow: What pharmacists should know about COVID-19, substance use, and safe supply

To support implementation of the new BC Centre on Substance Use (BCCSU) guidance, the BCCSU is offering the following webinars, open to all prescribers, pharmacists, and allied health care workers:

*Thursday April 9 from 5:00pm – 6:00pm PDT*

### **What Pharmacists Should Know About COVID-19, Substance Use, and Safe Supply.**

Presented by Dr. Mona Kwong, Ann Johnston, and Guy Felicella.

REGISTER HERE: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7993441143777031948>

For questions: Nick Rempel, Substance Use Strategic Lead, [Nick.Rempel@northernhealth.ca](mailto:Nick.Rempel@northernhealth.ca)

## Physicians in self-isolation

If you're a physician in self-isolation, email Susan Trenholm: [Susan.Trenholm@northernhealth.ca](mailto:Susan.Trenholm@northernhealth.ca)

## Resources available for stress and emotional support

### Support Lines

- **Employee Family Assistance Program (EFAP)**
  - **1-844-751-2133** – 24/7 crisis counselling support and/or referral to community resources.
- **Physician Health Program** – supports available through Doctors of BC
  - Refer to information online at: <https://www.doctorsofbc.ca/resource-centre/physicians/physician-health-program-php>
- **BC Crisis Line**
  - Call **310-6789** for access to 24/7 crisis services.

## Trusted links and resources

- [BC Centre for Disease Control](https://www.bccsu.ca/)
- [HealthLink BC FAQ](#)
- [WHO FAQ](#)
- [Health Canada FAQ](#)
- [COVID-19 content in other languages](#)
- WorkSafe BC - [COVID-19 information and resources](#)
- Northern Health COVID-19 Online Clinic & Information Line: **1-844-645-7811**
- For **non-medical info**, call **1-888-COVID19 / 1-888-268-4319** 7 days, 7:30 am - 8 pm

For current information on restrictions on travel, gatherings and other issues, see the [Provincial Health Officer's webpage on current health topics](#). This page has links to the latest

joint statements and orders issued by the Provincial Health Officer and a link to the Government of Canada's travel advice and advisories.

### **24/7 Physician Call Centre**

- Number: 250-645-7897
- Local: 507897
- Toll Free: 1-833-645-7897

### **Rural Outreach Support group (ROSe) for COVID-19**

24/7 additional information, support, or guidance

- Toll Free: 1-888-918-0626